

Translation

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY
(Chapter II of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference P34110-P0	FOR FURTHER ACTION		See Form PCT/IPEA/416
International application No. PCT/JP2004/005422	International filing date (day/month/year) 15.04.2004	Priority date (day/month/year) 18.04.2003	
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC			
<p>Applicant MATSUSHITA ELECTRIC INDUSTRIAL CO., LTD.</p>			

<p>1. This report is the international preliminary examination report, established by this International Preliminary Examining Authority under Article 35 and transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.</p> <p>2. This REPORT consists of a total of <u>4</u> sheets, including this cover sheet.</p> <p>3. This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, comprising:</p> <p>a. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (<i>sent to the applicant and to the International Bureau</i>) a total of <u>24</u> sheets, as follows:</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications authorized by this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions).</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> sheets which supersede earlier sheets, but which this Authority considers contain an amendment that goes beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed, as indicated in item 4 of Box No. I and the Supplemental Box.</p> <p>b. <input type="checkbox"/> (<i>sent to the International Bureau only</i>) a total of (indicate type and number of electronic carrier(s)) _____, containing a sequence listing and/or tables related thereto, in computer readable form only, as indicated in the Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing (see Section 802 of the Administrative Instructions).</p>																								
<p>4. This report contains indications relating to the following items:</p> <table> <tr> <td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Box No. I</td> <td>Basis of the report</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Box No. II</td> <td>Priority</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Box No. III</td> <td>Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Box No. IV</td> <td>Lack of unity of invention</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Box No. V</td> <td>Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Box No. VI</td> <td>Certain documents cited</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Box No. VII</td> <td>Certain defects in the international application</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Box No. VIII</td> <td>Certain observations on the international application</td> </tr> </table>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Box No. I	Basis of the report	<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. II	Priority	<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. III	Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability	<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. IV	Lack of unity of invention	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Box No. V	Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement	<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. VI	Certain documents cited	<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. VII	Certain defects in the international application	<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. VIII	Certain observations on the international application
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Date of submission of the demand	Date of completion of this report
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/JP	Authorized officer
Facsimile No.	Telephone No.

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.
PCT/JP2004/005422

Box No. V **Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement**

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Claims	1-18	YES
	Claims		NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims	2	YES
	Claims	1, 3-18	NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	1-18	YES
	Claims		NO

2. Citations and explanations (Rule 70.7)

Document 1: JP 1-122501 A (Honda Motor Co., Ltd.), 15 May 1989, page 4, upper left column, lines 2 to 18 and fig. 6

Document 2: JP 5-040223 A (Canon Inc.), 19 February 1993, paragraph [0032]

Document 3: JP 2000-171901 A (Matsushita Electric Industrial Co., Ltd.), 23 June 2000

Document 4: JP 2002-258212 A (Ricoh Co., Ltd.), 11 September 2002, paragraphs [0045] to [0047] and fig. 12

The inventions set forth in claims 1 and 3 to 13 do not involve an inventive step in the light of document 1 and document 2 cited in the international search report. The invention that is disclosed in document 1 is intended to prevent decreases in illumination intensity; therefore, it would have been easy for a person skilled in the art to conceive of configuring so that the spherical mirror (3'') is substantially disposed further towards the outside than the light beam that is formed when the light from the light source (1) is reflected off of the elliptical mirror (2'') in order to ensure that the spherical mirror (3'') does not block the light that

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International application No.
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is reflected by the elliptical mirror (2''). Likewise, document 2 also discloses the feature of "configuring the form of the opening in the first concave mirror (2a) so as not to block the beams of light that are reflected by the elliptical mirror (1) and irradiated upon the second focal point (2b) from among the beams of light that are emitted by the light source means (3)."

In addition, the lens means for converting the light that is emitted from the light source device into substantially parallel beams of light, which is set forth in claims 11 to 13, is well known.

The inventions set forth in claims 14 to 18 do not involve an inventive step in the light of documents 1 to 3 cited in the international search report, and newly cited document 4. Document 3 discloses an invention wherein the optical axes of the plurality of light source devices can be considered to coincide within the same flat plane, and document 4 discloses an invention wherein a reflector that is configured from two spheroid mirrors is positioned so that the positions of the two focal points more or less coincide. Therefore, it would have been easy for a person skilled in the art to conceive of using the light source device that is disclosed in document 1 in the invention that is disclosed in document 3 or document 4.

The invention that is set forth in claim 2 is not disclosed in any of documents 1 to 4, and would not have been obvious to a person skilled in the art.